

Kentucky Personnel Cabinet Office of the Secretary Nikki Jackson

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Kentucky Employee Suggestion System Celebrates Twenty-Eighth Awards Ceremony

FRANKFORT, KY (**February 5, 2008**) – On February 19, 2008, Governor Steve Beshear and Secretary Nikki Jackson will host the twenty-eighth Employee Suggestion System Awards Ceremony which will recognize forty-four (44) state employees who made suggestions saving the state **\$9,271,631** in the first year of implementation.

At the ceremony, to be held at the Governor's Mansion, cabinet secretaries will recognize state employees for finding innovative ways to improve state government operations. This year's recipient awards total \$33,935.

The Commonwealth provides cash awards and certificates for the implementation of employee ideas resulting in improved safety and efficiency in operations, cost reduction, cost avoidance, improved public relations, or an increase in state revenues. Cabinets realizing the savings from the suggestions pay the awards. These awards range from a minimum of \$100 up to 10 percent of the suggestion's first-year savings, with a maximum of \$2,500. Awards of \$100 may be given for ideas that are adopted but have intangible savings.

The ESS has been reaping substantial savings since its origination in 1981. Since its establishment, the first-year savings for this program total more than \$36 million.